GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4462
ANSWERED ON:25.04.2005
ARECANUT RESEARCH CENTRE
Raju Pallam Mangapati Shri Mallipudi

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Arecanut Trees in Karnataka have been affected by a deadly disease;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Arecanut Research Centre, Calicut has suggested measures and medicines to counter the aforesaid disease; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Government to use the expertise of the said institute to protect the Arecanut Trees?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA):

(a) and (b) The Arecanut trees in Karnataka are affected by Yellow Leaf disease which causes slow decline in their health and yield.

(c) and (d) This disease cannot be controlled by any chemical method. However, the following measures have been suggested to maintain arecanut plantations in good health:

(1) Do not neglect the plantations once they are affected;

(2) Provide sufficient drainage to drain out excess water specially during the rainy season. This will reduce root rotting;

(3) Application of organic manure to improve the soil texture and aeration for better development of root system;

(4) Cultural operations, manural applications should be done in proper way and at proper time;

(5) Irrigate the plantations during summer.

(6) Government has advised the farmers to follow the above measures.